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A TESTIMONY OF Tender ADVICE and COUNSEL,

Given forth from our Half-years Meeting in *Dublin*, the 9th of the 9th Month, 1688.

To all that are convinced of the bleſſed Truth, and make profeſſion thereof, throughout this Nation of Ireland.

DEAR FRIENDS,

WE having under our conſideration at this time in the weighty ſenſe of the holy Truth, and in a true Zeal for the Proſperity thereof, to write unto you, as we have done ſeveral times formerly, which is for the good of all, to adviſe all that profeſs Truth to walk as becomes the Goſpel in their Converſation, Apparel, Deportment and Dealings, *&c.* which Advice hath not been ſo fully obſerved (by ſome) as we deſired: Therefore in a ſenſe of the weighty Care that is upon our Spirits at this time (which did livingly ſeize upon all the ſenſible Members of this Meeting,) we do again admoniſh all young People, and Others, to beware of a falſe Liberty in theſe things, and alſo to keep to the pure Language of Truth, and be careful not to degenerate into the confuſed Language of the World, or the vain and changeable Faſhions thereof. Moreover, we adviſe, That none that profeſs Truth, who have Hair enough upon their Heads, may ſuffer a vain unſettled mind to have place in them, ſo as to

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cut off their own Hair, and get great ruffling Periwigs, which Truth will not allow of; but if any have a real neceſſity, for want of Hair, or otherwiſe, then let them get ſuch Borders, or Periwigs, as are plain and decent, which beſt ſuits our Principles.

Theſe things in particular we lay before you; and our earneſt deſire is, that in theſe, and all things elſe in general, you may mind the Conduct of the Word of Grace in your own hearts, that you may be taught thereby (as the true Chriſtians were of old) *to deny all ungodlineſs and worldly luſts, and to live ſoberly, righteouſly and godlily in this preſent world*, that ſo you may adorn the Goſpel by your holy Lives, and godly Converſation, always coupled with the Fear of the Lord.

And our tender Adviſe is to all the Elders of every Meeting, to take care that the ſeveral Teſtimonies given forth heretofore be frequently read, and the wholſom Adviſe, thereinput in practice. And whereas we have ground for a godly jealouſie, that there are ſome Parents of Children, who ought to be concerned as Elders in the Church, that do indulge their Children in ſuch diſorders as afore-mentioned, whereby the hands of the Faithful are weakned, and the Teſtimonies of Truth ſlighted; which thing being very hurtful in the Church, we deſire, that where ſuch Parents are, they may be Admoniſhed by thoſe that are faithful, that the Teſtimony of Truth may be kept up in its ancient purity and plainneſs, and our Youth and others reclaimed, and preſerv'd out of ſuch things as are a Reproach to Truth, a Grief to honeſt-hearted Friends, and deſtructive to their own Souls.

And further, Dear Friends, we do intreat and beſeech you all to be mindful of your Duty in Meeting together, according to the good Advice often given unto us, and our

ancient Practice, for which we were zealous in the beginning, after the Lord had made his Truth known unto us, and in which we have ſo frequently met with the Lord, and through his preſence been ſo richly rewarded; the neglect whereof, we fear, doth bring a coldneſs, deadneſs and barrenneſs upon the Souls of ſome, and may cauſe them to loſs that Warmth, Freſhneſs and Zeal that was upon their Hearts in former times. And truly, Friends, we have a ſence upon our Spirits that too many are ſubject to a careleſneſs of performing this duty of meeting together, eſpecially upon the Week-days, their minds being too much taken up with earthly concerns, whereby they come not only to be hurt, by giving way to the Spirit of the World, with its choaking Cares; but alſo they are prevented from receiving the renewing vertue of the Power of God, which by the Faithful is enjoyed; ſo they, through their negligence, come to wither and decay in their inward Man, and loſe ſtrength for want of the ſame: Wherefore we deſire that a godly care may be upon every mind, and that all Friends may be ſtirred up to a diligent performance of this bleſſed incumbent Duty, that the benefit thereof every one may reap to their comfort.

Laſtly, We tenderly exhort all Friends, that the foregoing Teſtimony be frequently read in your Meetings and Families, and the wholſom Advice therein contained put in practice, which will tend to the Honour of God, and the Well-being of your Immortal Souls; which is the earneſt deſire of your Friends and Brethren.

Signed by Order of our Half-years Meeting, by

Alexander Seaton.